



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending October 28, 2007

RAIN FINALLY!

Virtually all harvest activities were brought to a standstill last week due to steady rain showers throughout the week. With only 2 days suitable for fieldwork, farmers worked on machinery, renovated pastures, stripped burley, and harvested some fall crops, as weather permitted. Despite the frequent showers, most field activities are still ahead or on-schedule with last year, with the exception of winter wheat planting. The moisture also benefited the recently seeded wheat, which now has a better chance to germinate and emerge healthy. Cotton producers made slow progress last week and only harvested a fraction of the remaining acreage, but they are still two weeks ahead of the 5-year average. With soybean harvest approaching the halfway mark, farmers remain on schedule with last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average.

Topsoil moisture levels were rated 11 percent very short, 19 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 22 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 33 percent very short, 35 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged five to ten degrees below normal across West Tennessee and one to five degrees above normal in the East. Rainfall across West and Middle Tennessee last week averaged well above normal, while Northeast Tennessee was not as lucky, getting less than an inch across the area.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Cotton – Harvested	83	78	64	57	Pastures	34	27	25	13	1
Soybeans – Harvested	68	64	69	58						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	35	27	34	42						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	42	35	52	50						
Winter Wheat – Emerged	23	9	25	22						

County Agent Comments

“Our county got over 10 inches of rain this week. Pastures look better now than all summer. Farmers still need to harvest the soybean crop.”

Steve Glass, Decatur County

“The farmers in Fayette County were not able to get in their fields this week due to rain showers almost everyday. This was something we needed a few months back.”

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“Eight inches of rain over the last 10 days has helped to restore soil moisture and fill ponds. Pastures that still have fescue in them are starting to green up. Tobacco farmers are enjoying great weather for stripping the crop. Grain farmers still need a few more days of dry weather to finish the harvest.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

“As much rain as Tennessee had, Coffee County was almost missed again. The average rainfall for the week was slightly over 1”. Some areas were a whopping 1.25" down to 0.75" in other areas.”

Dean Northcutt, Coffee County

“Rain measured across the county measured in the range of 0.10 to 1.00 inch. Ponds continue to dry and cattle herd reduction is the norm with little hay in reserve.”

John Wilson, Blount County

“The good news is we received 1.55 inches of rain this week! I saw 2 ponds yesterday that had been dry most of the summer, now are holding a small amount of water. The rain has now loosened the soil up enough for fire ant mounds to pop up. Most farmers have sold off calves and their low-end cows. Producers are stretching hay supplies with commercial feeds and commodity feeds. I talked to a local dairyman yesterday who has given up (He sold all of his cows this week). I receive calls daily from other states with hay for sale. With the cost of freight, most local farmers are reluctant to purchase grass hay delivered for \$150/ton or more. Fall seeded wheat is now emerging. A few producers are beginning to mow their second cutting of hay.”

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: October 28, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending October 28, 2007				Current Week 10/28/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	81	41	55	-3	4.53	6	31.81	-10.12	24.17	-3.99
Tri-City_RGNL_A	82	44	64	12	0.86	3	18.64	-15.51	13.12	-10.66
Brownsville_TN	80	43	55	-3	4.08	5	30.42	-11.40	22.63	-5.39
Chattanooga/Lov	82	45	62	6	3.11	4	29.36	-13.97	22.11	-5.49
Clarksville_Sew	72	46	57	3	6.13	5	40.45	-0.14	31.33	4.39
Cookeville	83	42	59	5	1.47	3	26.58	-19.48	16.68	-14.35
Covington	78	42	54	-5	2.98	5	32.76	-8.27	23.98	-3.37
Crossville_AP	74	45	60	8	2.08	3	31.29	-13.68	24.27	-5.68
Dayton	79	45	59	4	3.11	3	31.85	-13.53	25.22	-4.14
Dickson_AG	70	44	55	-1	5.24	4	32.07	-11.16	22.48	-6.74
Dover_1W	80	46	56	3	5.67	5	35.49	-6.84	25.11	-3.32
Dyersburg	79	45	55	-3	3.98	4	32.30	-7.69	23.22	-3.95
Erwin_1W	81	40	63	12	1.30	4	28.01	-12.88	22.39	-6.99
Huntingdon_Wate	79	44	55	0	4.56	4	29.37	-13.60	20.96	-8.25
Jackson_Exp_Stn	80	44	55	-3	4.23	6	32.99	-8.90	24.31	-4.30
Kingston_AG	78	44	60	7	1.60	3	30.85	-16.44	22.65	-8.56
Knoxville_AP	81	48	64	9	0.71	3	27.05	-11.50	20.01	-5.22
Lewisburg	81	39	57	3	2.35	4	30.34	-14.05	22.71	-7.10
Lexington_TN	79	44	56	-2	6.33	4	34.87	-6.03	25.28	-2.43
Linden	80	43	56	2	5.35	4	34.99	-9.26	25.83	-3.43
Martin	80	44	55	-2	4.76	4	37.70	-4.86	26.73	-2.59
Mc_Minnville_Tn	75	45	59	4	1.56	4	27.19	-16.15	20.17	-8.75
Memphis_AG	82	41	55	-6	2.49	5	29.08	-11.82	21.11	-6.30
Milan	80	40	55	-1	4.57	4	35.40	-8.21	27.16	-2.83
Murfreesboro_5N	82	41	58	3	2.89	5	31.94	-11.37	21.06	-8.47
Nashville_Metro	81	47	59	3	3.40	4	25.10	-13.17	17.53	-8.50
Newcomb	77	39	58	8	1.42	3	29.20	-15.81	21.19	-9.95
Oneida	79	44	59	8	1.72	3	27.96	-17.05	20.46	-10.68
Portland_TN	79	46	57	3	3.75	5	29.99	-11.52	20.63	-7.58
Pulaski_Water_P	79	39	56	-2	2.16	5	26.74	-17.67	17.70	-11.32
Savannah_6SW	82	40	57	-2	6.11	6	32.20	-12.96	23.54	-6.16
Sparta_TN	78	45	60	7	1.33	4	27.87	-16.81	19.48	-10.63
Springfield	81	44	56	3	5.19	6	30.76	-9.14	21.87	-5.16
Springhill	80	43	57	3	3.02	5	31.70	-12.52	22.20	-7.41
Union_City	79	43	54	-2	3.54	4	36.18	-5.49	25.97	-2.52
Waynesboro_TN	80	42	56	2	5.11	4	34.30	-11.84	26.11	-4.26

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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